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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5883rd meeting of the Security Council, held on 30 April 2008, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation between Eritrea and Ethiopia", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council notes that the continuation of Eritrea's obstructions towards United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) has reached a level so as to undermine the basis of the Mission's mandate and has compelled UNMEE to temporarily relocate. The Security Council recalls its previous condemnation of Eritrea's lack of cooperation.

"The Security Council notes the underlying fundamental issues and stands ready to assist the parties to overcome the current stalemate, taking into account the interests and concerns of both parties.

"The Security Council will, in the light of consultations with the parties, decide on the terms of a future United Nations engagement and on the future of UNMEE.

"The Security Council stresses, in accordance with its repeated statements, that the primary responsibility for achieving a comprehensive and lasting settlement of the border dispute and normalizing their relations rests with the parties themselves.

"The Security Council urges both sides to show maximum restraint and to refrain from any threat or use of force against each other and calls upon the parties to address forthwith the unresolved issues in accordance with the commitments made in the Algiers Agreements."

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